

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 015349

61

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:PMAYHEW:JDB

APPROVED BY EA - MR. MILLER

DOD/ISA - MR. FLINT

DOD/DSAA/ISA/SA - MR. LIGNON

DOD/J-5/JCS - GEN. YOUREE (SUBS.)

DOD/ASD/PA&E - MR. KUGLER

NSC - J. TAYLOR

OMB - J. EISENHOUR

PM - D. JAMES

T . LEWIS S/S:FVORTIZ

----- 087038

O 212337Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 015349

EXDIS MILITARY ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652, GDS

TAGS: MASS, MPOL, KS

SUBJECT: ROK FORCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

REF: (A) SEOUL 8760; (B) SEOUL 8802; (C) 8814

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

CINCPAC PASS TO ASST SEC HABIB AND AMBASSADOR SNEIDER

1. WASHINGTON AGENCIES HAVE STUDIED ROK FORCE IMPROVEMENT
PLAN (FIP), AND EMBASSY/COMUSK RECOMMENDATIONS AND,
FORMULATION OF FIP BY ROKG IS ALSO SIGNIFICANT STEP
FORWARD IN TERMS OF ROK DEFENSE SELF-SUFFICIENCY. AS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 015349

EMBASSY/COMUSK AWARE, REVIEW OF KOREAN MILITARY REQUIRE-

MENTS IN RELATION TO STRATEGY FOR THE DEFENSE OF KOREA IS ON-GOING IN DOD.

2. FORMULATION OF FIP BY ROKG IS SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD IN TERMS OF ROK SELF DEFENSE SUFFICIENCY. WE WISH TO SUPPORT SUCH EFFORTS; HOWEVER, WE CANNOT ENTER INTO MULTI-YEAR COMMITMENT IN SUPPORT OF FIP. THE EVOLUTION OF OUR SECURITY RELATIONSHIP, MARKED BY COMPLETION OF THE MOD PLAN AND THE PLANNED TRANSITION FROM GRANT TO FMS ASSISTANCE, TOGETHER WITH THE PROGRESS THAT ROK HAS MADE

ECONOMICALLY, MAKE SUCH AN UNDERTAKING INAPPROPRIATE. IN ANY CASE, CONGRESSIONAL ATTITUDES TOWARDS LONG TERM COMMITMENTS, AND SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN GENERAL, PRECLUDE COMMITMENT TO THE FIP. WE FURTHERMORE ARE NOT IN POSITION TO COMMIT OURSELVES TO OUTYEAR TARGET LEVELS OF FMS SUPPORT. WE DO NOT WISH TO CREATE IMPRESSION THAT WE ARE UNDERTAKING ANOTHER JOINT MULTI-YEAR MODERNIZATION PLAN EVEN BEFORE MOD PLAN IS COMPLETED.

3. IT IS THUS ESSENTIAL THAT IMPRESSION NOT BE CREATED THAT PLAN IS US-ROK EFFORT. RATHER, IT MUST REMAIN ROK PLAN WHICH ROK PROPOSES TO FUND FROM ITS OWN RESOURCES, BUT WHICH WE WILL SELECTIVELY ASSIST AS WE CAN. WE HAVE NO DIFFICULTY WITH FIVE-YEAR PERIOD OF PLAN, SINCE WE SHARE EMBASSY/COMUSK ASSESSMENT THAT PLAN WILL BE ADJUSTED TO REALITIES OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE AVAILABILITIES.

4. AT SAME TIME, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT CONTINUED STRONG SUPPORT OF ROK FORCE MODERNIZATION SERVES U.S. SECURITY OBJECTIVES IN KOREA AND IN NORTHEAST ASIA. WE WOULD IN ANY CASE EXPECT THAT WITH TERMINATION OF GRANT MATERIEL ASSISTANCE FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF MOD PLAN WE WOULD CONTINUE TO REQUEST SUBSTANTIAL LEVELS OF FMS GUARANTEED CREDITS TO FURTHER ASSIST ROK FORCE MODERNIZATION.

5. THIS ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE BASED ON COMPLETION OF MOD PLAN OBJECTIVES AND, AS FOLLOW ON, SELECTIVE SUPPORT OF MUTUALLY AGREED PROJECTS AND THOSE ITEMS IN THE FIP RELATED TO U.S. SECURITY OBJECTIVES IN KOREA. THEREFORE, HAVING IN MIND THE ROK'S DESIRE FOR INCREASED CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 015349

CREDIT SUPPORT IN FY 1977, FY 1977 BUDGET REQUEST FOR KOREA HAS BEEN READJUSTED TO \$275 MILLION IN FMS GUARANTEED LOANS AND \$8.3 MILLION GRANT AID TO COVER SUPPLY OPERATIONS AND UN COSTS. APPROVAL OF FY 77 FMS LEVEL BASED ON ASSUMPTION IT DID NOT CONSTITUTE ENDORSEMENT OF FIP.

6. IN PRESENTING FY 77 REQUEST IT WILL BE NECESSARY

TO ASSURE CONGRESS THAT REQUEST IS NOT BEGINNING OF ANY MULTI-YEAR COMMITMENT AND THAT THE FMS LEVELS SOUGHT ARE JUSTIFIED IN TERMS OF EXISTING MUTUALLY AGREED PROJECTS. WE THEREFORE DO NOT WISH FY 77 LEVEL TO BE PUBLICALLY CONSTRUED AS ENDORSEMENT OF FIP. TO HAVE ANY PROSPECT OF REACHING INCREASED OVERALL PROGRAM LEVELS IT IS NECESSARY TO TERMINATE GRANT MATERIEL ASSISTANCE.

7. EMBASSY/COMUSK MAY INFORM HIGH LEVELS OF THE ROKG ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS OF READJUSTMENT OF MAP AND OUR VIEWS ON FIP, MAKING FOLLOWING POINTS:

-- THE FIP IS AN IMPORTANT MILESTONE IN ROK MILITARY SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

-- IN RECOGNITION OF THE ROKG'S IMMEDIATE NEEDS, AND TO COMPLETE OUR JOINT MOD PLAN OBJECTIVES, WE ARE PREPARED TO ASK CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORIZATION FOR FY 1977 FOR \$275 MILLION IN FMS GUARANTEED CREDITS.

-- OUR REQUEST FOR THE INCREASED LEVEL OF FMS, HOWEVER, CAN ONLY BE JUSTIFIED WITH CESSATION OF GRANT MATERIEL ASSISTANCE, WHICH WE HAVE DONE.

-- BUT WE WILL CONTINUE TO FUND PCH & T AND U.S. COSTS IN FY 77 THROUGH GRANT ASSISTANCE.

-- USG CANNOT MAKE A MULTI-YEAR COMMITMENT TO THE FIP ITSELF, AND THE FIGURE FOR FY 1977 FMS SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS COMMITMENT TO THAT OR ANY OTHER SPECIFIC LEVEL IN FUTURE YEARS. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ROKG UNDERSTAND THIS POINT.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 015349

-- HOWEVER, WE DO EXPECT TO REQUEST SIGNIFICANT LEVELS OF FMS GUARANTEED CREDITS IN FUTURE YEARS FOR SUPPORT OF SELECTED ITEMS IN FIP WHICH CLEARLY RELATE TO OUR SECURITY OBJECTIVES IN KOREA.

8. EMBASSY/COMUSK SHOULD STRESS THAT DETAILS OF FY 77 SECURITY ASSISTANCE REQUEST MUST REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL ITS SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS. FURTHER, FOR REASONS ABOVE, WE DO NOT WISH INFORMATION ON FY 77 REQUEST TO BE CONSTRUED PUBLICLY AS SUPPORT FOR FIP.

9. CONTRARY TO SOME PRESS REPORTS, THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN ADMINISTRATION REQUEST FOR FY 76. SISCO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FORCE & TROOP LEVELS, MILITARY PLANS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, US CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE015349
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PMAYHEW:JDB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760023-0591
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760136/aaaabfwh.tel
Line Count: 167
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 SEOUL 8760, 76 SEOUL 8802
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2004 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <22 SEP 2004 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROK FORCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN
TAGS: MASS, MPOL, KS, US
To: SEOUL CINCPAC
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006